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Sculpture

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Sculpture

JUDAH NELSON



A Very Short Spring

JULIE JEWETT

The days shorten, the leaves drop
birds search for a southernmost plain

all of life constricts, contracts
compresses itself into little chambers
the ice can't touch

A warm breeze causes the few brown leaves
that are still clinging to their branches to stir
and rustle like young girls' Easter dresses

and coaxes all of the little rodents and raccoons
out of hiding, and the shy iris to unfurl and turn
its petals, like spun silk, up toward the sun

Then the winds change again
and the temperature drops; icy crystals bite
into the earth

And then you know that
all of the worst things you think about yourself
I think them, too